A Most Cruel and Terrible

ENGAGEMENT

Between the CONFEDERATES of the

Upper and Lower ALSATIAS,

The Palatinate of

Dorset-Gardinia:

WITH

The Confines, and Territories of *Shark-Island*, and the Scandalous Sanctuary, on the one side, and the *Posse Com. Luxemburgians*, and *Tory-Drivers* on the other.

THE Quarrel, for it is fit you should know how they fell out, arose from hence, That *John Dutton*, living at the Sign of the *Sugar-Loaf*, within *Temple-Bar*, a mortal Enemy to *Shark-Island*, lays claim to a certain Castle in the *Upper-Alsatia*, in the Possession of *George*, a Blind-Bear, and *Ursula* his Wife, of the Race of the Dragonesses; which Castle formerly known by the Sign of the *Bulls-Head* in *White-Friars*, now

now alter'd to the Sign of the *Bear*, deriving its new Name, from the Name of the Beast that lives within. This Castle *Dutton* had purchas'd of a Cruel Landlady, to whom he paid 150 *l.* Fine, and 63 *l.* a Year; all which Rack-Rent he paid for some time, all but 3 *l. per Annum*, and then let the whole remaining Term of this Lease to the *Bear*, for 69 *l. per Annum*, but to encourage him to pay the Rent Quarterly, and without trouble, the said *Dutton* oblig'd himself, under his Hand and Seal, to abate 9 *l. per Annum*, provided the Rent were paid duly, and justly within Fourteen Days after every Quarter. But these Kindnesses did not satisfy the *Bear*, unless he might have the Castle for nothing: So that he was run in Arrears by last *Christmas*, after all Receipts and Taxes allow'd, 57 05 04

Besides the Charge of a former Distress 14 18 0

In all 72 05 04

Which is now due to *Dutton*, not reckoning in this last Ladies Quarter, which is near expir'd, which comes to 17 05 00

72 5 04

Total 89 10 4

Now to satisfy *Dutton*, there is nothing left but the Goods, which are Apprais'd at 45 5 0

So that *Dutton* is like to get over the left Shoulder, or according to the Phrase of *Alsatia*, to be *Bobb'd* of 44 5 4

This being the Truth and nothing but the Truth, I Appeal to all the World, except the *Alsatians* and *Shark Islanders*, themselves, whether their *Alsatians* and *Shark-Islanders* are not a Company of *Canary* Birds, to Protect this Bear from the Justice of the *Luxemburgians*. I would therefore have 'em to call a Geneeal Council of their Members of a *Pack-Thread* Crew, and advise with their Allies in the *Mint-Land*, by whome it was Enacted at a General Dyet of the Confederates, that what Goods were brought in should not be Parted with, but upon very good Terms; but that what was Contracted within for Rent, or otherwise within should be paid upon pain of Exclusion, or Hanging if able. This look'd like something of Justice, without which there could be no subsisting among Thieves and Pick-Pockets, and therefore renders the *Shark Islanders* the more inexcusible.

Well then the Quarrel being thus begun, *Dutton* Declared Open War against the Bear and *Ursula* his Wife. Upon which the Bear set forth

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* *Manifesto*, wherein he Alledg'd, that the Potentates of the *Posse Com.* were not to Assist *Dutton* because he is a *Roman Catholick.* To which *Dutton* apply'd in a Declaration, that so long as he Liv'd Civilly under the Government, his Religion was no Argument, why he should not have his Right and Due. Thereupon *Dutton* having got the *Posse Com.* to Muster together, resolv'd o make an Incursion into the Upper *Alsatia*, and Land in *Shark Island.* But first *Dutton* sent a Summons to the *Bear*, to Surrender the Remainder of his Money. To which *Ursula* the she *Bear* reply'd, that she had a Bill wherewith to Pay what Money was behind beginning, *Item* six Pound for Building a Shop for a *Barber*, tho' the whole Charge of that Shop was but Forty Shillings, and that still unpaid too; by which it was apparent, how *Dutton* was like to be satisfied. So that *Dutton* seeing there was no good to be done by fair means, drew up his Men, and gave the Signall of Battel. Nor did the Rapparees forbear to make a stout Resistance at first, insomuch that *Dutton* being somewhat of the forwardest to encourage his Men, received a slight Shot in his Right Brest; for which the Rapparees being seized by the *Luxemburgians*, Revolted to the *Posse Com.* and so sav'd his being taken Prisoner. Upon this the *Shark-Islanders* gave Ground, and the *Posse Com.* Led on by their Commander in Chief, March forward and Pursu'd the Enemy to the *Pallatinate* of *Dorset Gardinia*, where the *Shark-Islanders* being Reinforced with a good number of Lower *Alsatians*; and second by some Old Entrenchments, Fac'd about, and began to Parley with the Commander in Chief of the *Posse Com.* and boldly demanded of him his business: who bid them forthwith to lay down their Arms, or else they must expect no Quarter. They answered Peremptorily, that if he came to take away any of their Subjects they would Die upon the Spot, before they would part with them; and as for *Dutton*'s Goods, he was a *Papist*, and therefore they hoped his Worship would not Assist him, but let them have his Goods to add to their Treasure which was so much Exhausted by the frequent Alarums of Justice, besides that their Number was much diminished, by Hanging and Transportation.

They had also some particular Complaints against *Dutton* himself: For that when he was Constable about Six or Seven Years ago, he had put the Laws in execution; as well against many of their Foreign Benefactors, as Inland Traders; that is to say, their Sweetners, Traps, Decoy Drawers, Divers, Buttocks, Files, Country *Bess*, and *Farmer's* Wife, *&c.* and for that he had carry'd several of their best Benefactors to the *Counters*, and *Newgate*, that their best Nurseries, call'd Bawdy-houses, and Receivers of Stollen Goods, could not rest for him, though they had offer'd to spend Money at his House, and tempted him with Presents of Rings, Money, and Watches, to wink at small Faults, but nothing would do; for he cry'd still, he could not break his Constables Oath; So much was he wedded to that same Folly call'd Honesty. That his Successours were not of his Opinion, but let 'em do what they listed;

the one a famous Drunken House-Painter, the other a Milk-sop, a Penny Custard-Maker, who to his Praise be it spoken, when the *Posse Com.* appear'd, always play'd, Least in Sight.

The Commander in Chief, having heard their Remonstrances, advis'd 'em to be obedient, and submit to the Laws, and so went on with his business, ordering *Dutton* to hasten his Workmen; who did as he was order'd, not withstanding the loud Complaints of *Ursula*, and her two Friends; one discreet Lawyer, the other a Dissembling *Mahometan*, who cry'd out of *Dutton*'s hard Usage of her Husband, & fain would have perswaded the *Posse Com. Luxemburgians* that what *Dutton* their Landlord did, was only because her Husband was a *Protestant*, only by which means, they thought to have got clear of their Landlord: But this Plot not taking, they were forc'd to let go the Goods quietly. Nevertheless, *Dutton* was so kind, and far more compassionate to them than they would have been to him, so that he left the *Bear*, and *Ursula* his Wife, their own Bed-chamber furnish'd. And they that know the Temper of the Beast, well know, that he loves his ease too well, to lie upon the worst Bed.

Thus the *Alsatians*, and *Shark Islanders*, being utterly defeated, the Commander in Chief of the *Posse Com.* sounded a Retreat, and *Dutton* carry'd off his Bag and Baggage.

I could enlarge much more upon this Subject, but I shall end with a seasonable use of Exhortation to these same Lawless Inhabitants of both the *Alsatian's*, and *Sharks Islanders*; Not to to urge *Dutton* the Landlord too far, for fear he should be the occasion of Breaking their Pretended Priviledges: For they very well know how I deal't with *Morgan ap Morgan*, who set up the *White-Fryars*, thinking to out-hector me with his Bullys, and the most resolute of all the Pestilent Gang: But I Dissolv'd 'em, broke the Knot, Disarm'd, and Level'd 'em in two or three Sessions.

They know that I know the Place full well, as having liv'd Twelve Years among them, and have had several that are Landlords in the Place, to know of me what Methods I took; and I tell 'em, *Knaves must be dealt with like Knaves.*

Moreover, I advise two Men of *White-Fryars*, to keep a Good Tongue in their Heads: The one is Captain *W——ter*, a Famous Champion upon Record, for appearing in Routs and Ryots; the other, Honest Drunken Captain *G——den*, who says, *Dutton* was a *Papist*, in one King's Reign, but now goes to Church to save his Bacon; which *Dutton* denys. And there is one of the Learned Men of the Law among them, can testifie, That *Dutton* paid him a Bill for appearing for him, and making his defence against one *Lyn*, or *Lole* an Informer. And therefore *John Dutton* owns himself to be a *Roman Catholick*, as he ever was, and his Father before him, though very much to his Damage, and Prejudice. So Farewel till the next Occasion.

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